

Status Summary (cont'd)

Claims 4, 5, and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Wines (et al) in view of Freixas (French)--called "Freitas" in the OA.

No other rejection or objection is outstanding.

Independent claim 13 and dependent claims 14 to 20 are added by this response, in view of their apparent patentability over the art.

The 112 Rejection Obviated

Claim 2 is rewritten in more intelligible form by this response. Applicant respectfully asserts that it is now adequately definite.

The Reference Disclosures

WINES (et al) discloses a formidable *Portable Nursing Device*, which--besides carrying an inverted bottle (38) of cold drinking water--provides a pull-out wash basin (34) and a recessed wash station (32) resembling a modern dishwasher, wherein bedpans and the like can be spray-washed, rinsed, and dried. Both such facilities are supplied with hot and cold water via flexible hoses (66 and 88) to be connected to available plumbing (not shown). The wash water recirculates until it is drained off via a flexible waste hose (86) also to be connected to the externally available plumbing.

FREIXAS (Fr.) discloses an *Apparatus for Washing the Head* for use in a hair salon. This reference provides a mobile device having a wash basin (17) flanked by a pair of horizontal extensions (19) to cover the shoulders/garments of a person undergoing a shampoo, etc.

The Reference Disclosures (cont'd)

In FREIXAS hot water under air pressure in a lower compartment (3) is available (by conventional means--not shown or described--perhaps a flexible tube with a spray head) at a side connector (8) to wash the hair of a person whose head is above the wash basin. Used water drains into an upper compartment (4) from which it may be drained off to external plumbing (not shown) via outlet faucet (8).

The Anticipation Rejection Avoided

This rejection affected claim 1 and its dependent claim 3; also independent claim 6 and its dependent claims 7 and 8; and also independent claim 9 and its dependent claims 10 and 12.

As the Examiner well knows, in order to anticipate, a reference must--without modification--meet every positively claimed feature.

The only WINES feature mentioned by the Examiner is "faucet 18" which he equates to the claimed "rinse water inlets" of claim 1--not recited in independent claim 9 (or its dependent claims 10 or 12)--which he asserts "would be met by a well known aerator". By this response, the claim 1 inlets are identified as being in and along a wall of the cuplike receptor means, as illustrated (31) in Fig. 2.

Applicant respectfully suggests that the Examiner should either cite a "well known aerator" so located structurally and functionally or withdraw this rejection as to claim 1 and its dependent claims so rejected (3 and 6 to 8) by reason of such revision of claim 1.

In independent claim 6 and its dependent claims 7 and 8, the cuplike receptor means is now recited as "having an elastomeric wall with rinse water inlets therealong"--not in the reference.

The Anticipation Rejection Avoided (cont'd)

In independent claim 9 (thus in its dependent claims 10 and 12) cuplike receptor means is now recited as of "temporarily deformable elastomeric" composition, as on specification page 8 at lines 7-8. Dependent claim 12 is further amended by this response to say that the "temporary storage compartment is at a height enabling it to be positionable overlying and be discharged into a toilet bowl..." The apparatus of WINES does not meet either claim's noted requirements.

Applicant respectfully urges that the rejection of the various claims rejected for asserted anticipation be withdrawn in view of the foregoing claim revisions and the accompanying remarks.

The Unpatentability Rejection Refuted

This rejection was asserted against claims 4 and 5 (dependent upon claim 1), and against claim 11 (dependent upon claim 9). These share the patentability of their respective independent claims, much as considered above in connection with the anticipation rejection. Combination with FREIXAS supplements the WINES disclosure only as to pressurized air propulsion of water--noted in these dependent claims --but not otherwise insofar as the Examiner's remarks indicate.

Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection predicated on WINES in view of FREIXAS be withdrawn in view of the revision of claim 1 and the revision of claim 9, inasmuch as neither reference suggests "a positionable cuplike receptor having a wall with rinse water inlets therealong" or "temporarily deformable receptor means".

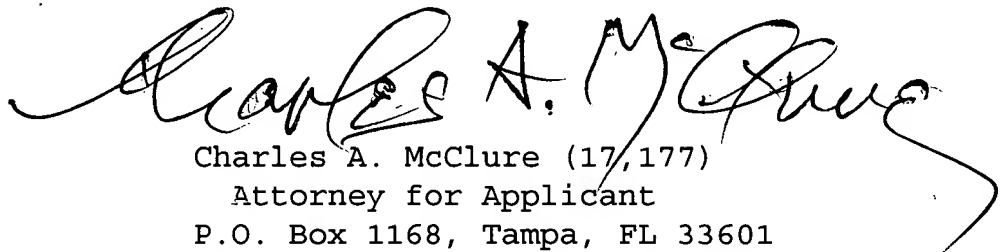
The Newly Added Claims

Independent claim 13 and its dependent claims 14 to 20 define the invention in terms somewhat similar to but also different from the original claims and are believed to be patentable accordingly.

Claim 13 is drawn to an improvement in mobile sanitation means, comprising specifically elastomeric receptor means for waste liquids.

Dependent claims 14 to 20 are drawn to various features and/or combinations of features involving the subject matter of claim 13, and are believed to be patentable for similar reasons as that claim.

Respectfully submitted,



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REGULAR MAIL CERTIFICATE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is addressed, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, and is being mailed thereto on the date last stated above.

